AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

Claims 1-36 (Cancelled)

37. (New) A method of ~~using~~ providing a toothed belt for use in an oil-wet environment, the method comprising:

providing a toothed belt and adapting said toothed belt for use in direct contact with oil or at least partially immersed in oil, said belt comprising a body, a number of teeth extending from at least one first surface of said body,

said teeth being coated by a first fabric, said fabric being externally coated with a resistant layer, said resistant layer comprising

a fluorinated plastomer,

a first elastomeric material, and

a vulcanisation agent,

said fluorinated plastomer present in said resistant layer in a larger quantity than said first elastomeric material,

said body comprising a compound based on a second elastomeric material formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups, and

said nitrile groups are in percentage between 33% and 49% in weight with respect to the weight of said copolymer~~; and~~.

~~adapting said toothed belt for use in direct contact with oil or at least partially immersed in oil~~.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said nitrile groups are in percentage 39% in weight.

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said second elastomeric material further

comprises hydrogenated butadiene acrylonitrile.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said hydrogenated butadiene acrylonitrile is modified with a zinc salt of polymethacrylic acid.

41. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said resistant layer comprises said fluorinated plastomer in a quantity in weight of between 101 and 150 parts in weight with respect to said elastomeric material.

42. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said fluorinated plastomer is polytetrafluoroethylene.

43. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the back of said belt is coated by a second fabric.

44. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said second fabric is coated on the outside by a second resistant layer.

45. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said second resistant layer is equal to said first resistant layer.

46. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said elastomeric material comprises fibres.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said fibres are present in a quantity in weight of between 0.5 and 15% with respect to said elastomeric material.

48. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the belt comprises resistant inserts chosen from the group consisting of aramidic fibres, PBO and carbon fibres.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein said resistant inserts have been treated with an RFL comprising an oil-resistant latex.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said latex comprises an elastomeric material

formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups.

51. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said toothed belt comprises, between the teeth and said back, sides treated with a polymer resistant to expansion.

52. (New) A method of using a toothed belt, the method comprising:

providing a toothed belt comprising:

a body;

a number of teeth extending from at least one first surface of said body;

said teeth being coated by a first fabric, said fabric being externally coated with a resistant layer, said resistant layer comprising:

a fluorinated plastomer;

said body comprising a compound based on a second elastomeric material formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups, and

said nitrile groups are in percentage between 33% and 49% in weight with respect to the weight of said copolymer; and

~~adapting~~ using said toothed belt ~~for use~~ in direct contact with oil or at least partially immersed in oil.

53. (New) A timing control system for a motor vehicle engine comprising at least one drive pulley, one driven pulley, a toothed belt and means for maintaining said toothed belt in oil-wet condition; said toothed belt comprising a body and a number of teeth extending from at least one surface of said body; said teeth being coated by a fabric, said fabric being externally coated by a resistant layer, in which:

said resistant layer comprises a fluorinated plastomer, a first elastomeric material and a vulcanisation agent;

said fluorinated plastomer is present in said resistant layer in a larger quantity than said first elastomeric material;

said body comprises a compound based on a second elastomeric material formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups; and

said nitrile groups are in percentage between 33% and 49% in weight with respect to the

weight of said copolymer.

54. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein said nitrile groups are in percentage 39% in weight.

55. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein said second elastomeric material comprises hydrogenated butadiene acrylonitrile.

56. (New) The timing control system of claim 55, wherein said hydrogenated butadiene acrylonitrile is modified with a zinc salt of polymethacrylic acid.

57. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein said resistant layer comprises said fluorinated plastomer in a quantity in weight of between 101 and 150 parts in weight with respect to said elastomeric material.

58. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein said fluorinated plastomer is polytetrafluoroethylene.

59. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein the back of said belt is coated by a second fabric.

60. (New) The timing control system of claim 59, wherein said second fabric is externally coated by a second resistant layer.

61. (New) The timing control system of claim 60, wherein said second resistant layer is equal to said first resistant layer.

62. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein said elastomeric material comprises fibres.

63. (New) The timing control system of claim 62, wherein said fibres are present in a quantity in weight of between 0.5 and 15% with respect to said elastomeric material.

64. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein the belt further comprises resistant inserts chosen from the group consisting of aramidic fibres, PBO and carbon fibres.

65. (New) The timing control system of claim 64, wherein said resistant inserts have been treated with an RFL comprising an oil-resistant latex.

66. (New) The timing control system of claim 65, wherein said latex comprises an elastomeric material formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups.

67. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein the belt further comprises, between the teeth and said back, sides treated with a polymer resistant to expansion.

68. (New) The timing control system of claim 53, wherein the system further comprises a sliding block tightener or a sliding block.

69. (New) An oil-resistant toothed belt comprising a body and a number of teeth extending from at least one first surface of said body; said teeth being coated by a first fabric, said fabric being externally coated with a resistant layer, ~~in which~~said belt comprising:

said resistant layer ~~comprises~~ comprising a fluorinated plastomer, a first elastomeric material and a vulcanisation agent;

said fluorinated plastomer ~~is~~ present in said resistant layer in a larger quantity than said first elastomeric material;

said body ~~comprises~~ comprising a compound based on a second elastomeric material formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups; and

said nitrile groups ~~are~~ in a percentage between 33% and 49% in weight with respect to the weight of said copolymer.

70. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said belt is suitable to resist for its lifetime when used in direct contact or partially immersed in oil.

71. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said toothed belt is suitable to

pass the duration tests which they undergo for use in motor vehicles.

72. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said belt resists at least 80,000,000 cycles in the duration tests which they undergo for use in motor vehicles.

73. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said nitrile groups are in percentage 39% in weight.

74. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said second elastomeric material comprises hydrogenated butadiene acrylonitrile.

75. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 74, wherein said hydrogenated butadiene acrylonitrile is modified with a zinc salt of polymethacrylic acid.

76. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said resistant layer comprises said fluorinated plastomer in a quantity in weight of between 101 and 150 parts in weight with respect to said elastomeric material.

77. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said fluorinated plastomer is polytetrafluoroethylene.

78. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherin the back of said belt is coated by a second fabric.

79. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said second fabric is coated on the outside by a second resistant layer.

80. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said second resistant layer is equal to said first resistant layer.

81. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein said elastomeric material comprises fibres.

82. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 81, wherein said fibres are present in a quantity in weight of between 0.5 and 15% with respect to said elastomeric material.

83. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein the belt further comprises resistant inserts chosen from the group consisting of aramidic fibres, PBO and carbon fibres.

84. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 83, wherein said resistant inserts have been treated with an RFL comprising an oil-resistant latex.

85. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 84, wherein said latex comprises an elastomeric material formed of a copolymer obtained from a dienic monomer and a monomer containing nitrile groups.

86. (New) The oil-resistant toothed belt of claim 69, wherein the belt further comprises between the teeth and said back sides treated with a polymer resistant to expansion.